

MIPAC Meeting Minutes

9/8/16

Attendees

MIPAC Parents: Rosalie Kuhlmann, Juintow Lin, Jennifer Pang, Ami Barrett

Curriculum Specialist: Jie Gao

Principal: Greg Hauser

Guests: Audrey Shaw, Tammy Studt, Kathy Sales, Lindsey Denison, Katie Nichol, Debbie James, Susanne Dachgruber, Stephanie Norman

Absent: Agustin Del Alamo (MIPAC parent)

Meeting called to order at 12:14pm by Jen Pang.

Minutes from prior meeting: Ami made motion to approve amended minutes dated 9/7/16. Greg seconded the motion. All were in favor. Rosalie will email approved minutes to Erich for posting on website and to Greg to distribute to appropriate CUSD partners.

Current issues:

Middle School Curriculum and Planning

- Thank you to everyone who made calls to different programs over the summer

Interview trends noticed:

- Curriculum usually composed of MLA and social science (2 classes only)
- Jie talked with Portland Curriculum specialist – a program that had science in Mandarin but then removed it. Parent feedback – with the high school focus on IB and AP, there was no real need for science in Mandarin in middle school.
- Several programs have designed their middle school by working backwards from high school. The middle school curriculum supports high school goals (for examples, AP tests or IB).
- Jie's recommendation – middle school is very busy – prioritize what the students should learn but also *what makes sense*.

What is the goal of the program? District goal suggestion is the seal of biliteracy. This goal is not seen as sufficient by the meeting attendees.

- o We need to differentiate between parents' goals vs student goals.

- Our job (MIPAC) is to pitch what is best for the program (not necessarily what we think the district will do)

Discussion regarding 2-2-2 or even 2-2-1

- If we go 2-2-2, the third year is US history, so we will need to be creative with 8th grade electives
- 0 period in middle school was actually driven by the need for music and to give kids who want music to actually have an opportunity to take electives. Program should not be so rigid as to not allow students to explore some other interests, such as music.
- Is there any issue regarding FTE staffing? Would 2-2-2 be more attractive than anything else?
- Need to keep kids involved and interested and motivated to stay in the program
 - Partner with industry and local colleges to enhance the learning and keep students
 - Explore exchange programs and capstone trips
- Other program feedback regarding PE and Music in Mandarin – failed because no enhanced language learning opportunity

Mandarin Immersion subcommittee of LI Advisory Committee update

- Hanover deliverable is research results, not a recommendation.
- They will look at all the schools in the district and vet pros/cons
- Hanover's research will support a recommendation by CUSD. Trustees will vote on the recommendation.

Language Immersion Advisory meeting update

- Hanover is not approved by the board yet – still need for this to happen.
- Probably need parents at the next board meeting to remind trustees that Hanover costs money, but we now have a Mandarin curriculum specialist as an extremely valuable resource. Friends of MIP is funding this cost, but if the district is willing to pay for a service such as Hanover, they may consider also funding the specialist.
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Other topics discussed:

- Our program goals: Business world conversational level? AP test score level? We need to discuss this further.
- Simplified vs. traditional. Where are the students going to use their language? Consensus from parents seems to be we want our students prepared to be able to function in either environment.
- Deliverable due to CUSD at the end of next week. Final decision (middle school commitment) by board no earlier than 10/26 and no later than 11/16.
- Need to have IB and AP discussion. Having both works at San Clemente High School for Spanish.

General session closed at 1:23pm. Next meeting is Thursday, 9/15 at 2pm in the library.